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**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 12, 13, and 15-24 are pending in the present Application. No claims have been added, Claims 12, 13, and 21 – 24 have been cancelled, without prejudice, and Claims 1 and 20 have been amended, leaving Claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 15-20, for consideration upon entry of the present amendment.

Claims 1 and 20 have been amended merely to change “heating said resin; disposing said heated resin...” to “heating said resin to form a heated resin; disposing said heated resin...”.

These amendments do not require additional search, add new matter, or increase the number of claims. These amendments merely provide further clarity about the heated resin as was supported in the claim and previously considered by the Examiner. Entrance of these amendments and consideration of this response are respectfully requested.

Claims 12, 13, and 21 – 24 have been cancelled without prejudice to Applicants rights to seek a continuation application reciting these claims. The claims are cancelled to facilitate allowance of the claims that have been acknowledged as allowable. Applicants maintain that Claims 12, 13, and 21 – 24 are novel and patentable over the art of record.

No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

**Information Disclosure Statement**

Applicants would like to draw the Examiners attention to the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) submitted on 9/06/05. On the IDS, the International Search Report for PCT/US2004/014912 has been struck without explanation. Applicants respectfully request that the International Search Report be considered and a fully initialed PTO Form A820 be returned to the Applicants.

**Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph**

Examiner has objected to the amendment filed on 8/15/2005 under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) contending it introduces new matter into the disclosure of the invention. Specifically, Examiner

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asserts Claims 16 – 17 are not supported by the original disclosure. Further, Examiner has rejected Claims 16 - 17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the Specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully traverse this objection as the following sections provide support for these claims.

Support for Claim 16 can be found at least on Page 8, line 19 through Page 10, line 10, Page 19, lines 23 – 27, as well as Figure 4.

Support for Claim 17 can be found at least on Page 7, line 17 through Page 8, line 18, as well as Figures 5 and 6.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and rejection are respectfully requested.

#### Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-2, 4-7, 12-13, 15-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, Examiner states "Claims 1, 20 recites the limitation 'said heated reinforced resin material'". (Office Action, page 3) Although Applicants contend that "disposing said heated resin material..." following the element "heating said resin material" renders "said heated resin material" clear, definite, and readily understood, Claims 1 and 20 have been amended to recited "heating said resin material to form a heated resin material" to facilitate allowance of the present claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

#### Double Patenting Claim Rejections

Claims 12-13 and 21-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as allegedly anticipated by: a) Claims 1-68 of U.S. Patent No. 6,306,507 to Brunelle et al. (hereinafter Brunelle '507); or b) Claims 1-75 of U.S. Patent No. 6,610,409 to Pickett et al. (hereinafter Pickett '409); or c) Claims 1-64 of U.S. Patent No. 6,689,474 to Pickett et al. (hereinafter Pickett '474) in view of

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U.S. Published Application 2002/0039657 to Brunelle et al. (hereinafter Brunelle '657), in view of WO 02/094560 to Mitten et al., and in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,136,441 to Macgregor et al.

Claims 12-13 and 21-24 have been cancelled, without prejudice, thereby rendering this rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 12-13 and 21-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over: a) BRUNELLE et al (US 6,306,507); or WO 00/69945; or BRUNELLE et al (US 6,265,522); or BRUNELLE et al (US 6,291,589); or BRUNELLE et al (US 6,294,647); or BRUNELLE et al (US 2002/0039657); or SHAKHNOVICH (US 6,410,620); or SURIANO et al (US 6,528,065) in view of WO 02/094560, and in view of MACGREGOR et al (US 6,136,441). Claims 12-13 have been cancelled with the entry of this amendment, thereby leaving Claims 21-24 rejected.

Claims 12-13 and 21-24 have been cancelled, without prejudice, thereby rendering this rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 2, 4 – 7, 15, and 18 – 20 have been acknowledged as allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112. Claims 1 and 20 have been amended to clarify that "said heated resin" refers to the resin formed from "heating the resin".

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It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-3622.

Respectfully submitted,

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